"Washburn, Ben" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE;GROUP

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FDA03CBA30C542059E0AF4208DAD96DA-WASHBURN,BEN>

To:

From:

CC:

Date: 5/12/2014 2:35:55 PM Subject: OPA Daily Digest 5/12/14

## **OPA Daily Digest for 5/12/14**

## **Congressional Inquiries:**

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.) – Phone inquiry/email – 5/9/14: Concerns about MoDOT fine for soil erosion from road project. Due: 5/1314. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.) – Letter – 5/2/14: Constituent concerns about the Strecker Forest/Bliss Ellisville site removal action. Due: 5/16/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

### **State Government Inquiries:**

None

## **Press Inquiries:**

Wall Street Journal – John Emshwiller – 5/6/14: Questions about West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (open)

Omaha World Herald – Nancy Gaarder – 5/8/14: Questions about York sites NPL listing. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

## **Environmental Stories:**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Editorial: EPA urgency on Bridgeton should be felt at West Lake Landfill - 5/9/14 - After taking matters into their own hands by conducting radiation soil tests of questionable scientific value, the residents of Bridgeton have succeeded in galvanizing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

<a href="http://www.stltoday.com/news/opinion/editorial-epa-urgency-on-bridgeton-should-be-felt-at-west/article\_fb344790-82bc-5e24-ba0b-cac991b91f0a.html">http://www.stltoday.com/news/opinion/editorial-epa-urgency-on-bridgeton-should-be-felt-at-west/article\_fb344790-82bc-5e24-ba0b-cac991b91f0a.html</a>

**St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Bridgeton ball fields to remain open during radiation testing** - 5/9/14 - It is safe for children to play baseball, softball and soccer at the Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex, government officials said Friday at a news conference giving details on upcoming radiation testing at the site. <a href="http://www.stltoday.com/lifestyles/health-med-fit/health/bridgeton-ball-fields-to-remain-open-during-radiation-testing/article\_9742db15-730c-5079-9701-7834466a0e59.html">http://www.stltoday.com/lifestyles/health-med-fit/health/bridgeton-ball-fields-to-remain-open-during-radiation-testing/article\_9742db15-730c-5079-9701-7834466a0e59.html</a>

KMOX Radio St. Louis - EPA Plans Limited Tests of Bridgeton Ball Fields - 5/9/14 - The EPA lays out its plans for testing little league ball fields for possible radioactive contamination from the nearby West Lake Landfill. EPA Regional Administrator Karl Brooks says his team will test for gamma radiation starting May 19th from "fence to fence" within the Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex. <a href="http://stlouis.cbslocal.com/2014/05/09/epa-plans-limited-tests-of-bridgeton-ball-fields/">http://stlouis.cbslocal.com/2014/05/09/epa-plans-limited-tests-of-bridgeton-ball-fields/</a>

KTVI Ch. 2 St. Louis - State rep. warns residents of future landfill odors (video) - 5/10/14 - There's a new warning about two troubled landfills in Bridgeton: the foul odors may soon get much worse and stretch all the way to Chesterfield, Missouri State Rep. Bill Otto (D) Maryland Heights said. <a href="http://fox2now.com/2014/05/10/state-rep-warns-residents-future-landfill-odors/">http://fox2now.com/2014/05/10/state-rep-warns-residents-future-landfill-odors/</a>

**KSDK Ch. 5 St. Louis - EPA to test sports complex in Bridgeton** – 5/9/14 - There's uncertainty tonight in Bridgeton after a Friday afternoon announcement that the EPA will run tests on a popular baseball complex. These tests come after a citizens group had samples tested that came back with results they say aren't safe. http://www.ksdk.com/story/news/local/2014/05/09/epa-to-test-bridgeton-sports-complex/8921591/

**St. Louis Public Radio - EPA To Test Popular Bridgeton Baseball Fields For Radiation** - 5/9/14 - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will soon begin testing a popular athletic complex in Bridgeton for radiation. The EPA will scan all the outdoor areas of the Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex, except the parking lots, for gamma radiation. The playing fields will remain open in the meantime. <a href="http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/epa-test-popular-bridgeton-baseball-fields-radiation">http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/epa-test-popular-bridgeton-baseball-fields-radiation</a>

**Associated Press - Bridgeton radiation testing timetable announced -** 5/9/14 - Radiation testing at a baseball complex near a suburban St. Louis Superfund site will be completed by late this month and results should be available in 30-60 days after that, the Environmental Protection Agency's regional chief said Friday. <a href="http://www.chron.com/news/science/article/Bridgeton-radiation-testing-timetable-announced-5466661.php">http://www.chron.com/news/science/article/Bridgeton-radiation-testing-timetable-announced-5466661.php</a>

WOWT Ch. 6 Omaha - Latest Environmental Issue: 220-Mile Power Line Through Sandhills - 4/11/14 - First it was the proposed Keystone XL oil pipeline, now talk of a 220-mile power transmission line across the Sandhills in western Nebraska is drawing opposition from environmental groups. <a href="http://www.wowt.com/home/headlines/Latest-Environmental-Issue-220-Mile-Power-Line-Through-Sandhills-258827951.html">http://www.wowt.com/home/headlines/Latest-Environmental-Issue-220-Mile-Power-Line-Through-Sandhills-258827951.html</a>

Associated Press - Iowa DNR asked to strengthen water rules - 5/9/14 - A new rule that Iowa environmental regulators say will improve water quality through better enforcement of livestock farms was widely criticized as too weak at a public hearing Friday in Des Moines. <a href="http://www.chron.com/news/science/article/lowa-DNR-asked-to-strengthen-water-rules-5466128.php">http://www.chron.com/news/science/article/lowa-DNR-asked-to-strengthen-water-rules-5466128.php</a>

**Quad-City Times - Protect Iowa water from hogs** - 5/12/14 - Only with improved DNR oversight can the public be assured that best practices on factory farms are implemented and that Iowan's health comes before profit. <a href="http://qctimes.com/news/opinion/mailbag/protect-iowa-water-from-hogs/article\_3a7e168d-c56f-590a-b826-48878c0ac34f.html">http://qctimes.com/news/opinion/mailbag/protect-iowa-water-from-hogs/article\_3a7e168d-c56f-590a-b826-48878c0ac34f.html</a>

Associated Press - DNR to Hold Final Hearings on Clean Water Rules - 5/10/14 - The lowa Department of Natural Resources continues to hold hearings next week on proposed new rules to regulate confinement livestock farms in lowa. <a href="http://www.kcrg.com/dnr-to-hold-final-hearings-on-clean-water-rules-20140510">http://www.kcrg.com/dnr-to-hold-final-hearings-on-clean-water-rules-20140510</a>

Associated Press - Project aims to improve habitat along Mississippi - 5/11/14 - A massive project aimed at restoring the quality and quantity of habitat for fishing and hunting around the Huron Island complex about 20 miles north of Burlington on the Mississippi River is set to begin in this fall. <a href="http://globegazette.com/ap/state/project-aims-to-improve-habitat-along-mississippi/article\_bad42ac8-4967-5d1e-af46-77240d406319.html">http://globegazette.com/ap/state/project-aims-to-improve-habitat-along-mississippi/article\_bad42ac8-4967-5d1e-af46-77240d406319.html</a>

**Bloomberg - EPA Takes First Step Toward Regulating Fracking Chemicals -** 5/9/14 - After three years of delay, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said today it's considering rules requiring oilfield service companie to send it details on the health and safety of the chemicals used. <a href="http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-05-09/epa-considers-requiring-disclosure-of-fracking-chemicals.html">http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-05-09/epa-considers-requiring-disclosure-of-fracking-chemicals.html</a>

Kansas City Star - Kansas considers revised permit for \$2.8 billion Sunflower coal plant - 5/11/14 - The state's top environmental regulator is considering whether to clear the way again for a new coal-fired power plant in southwest Kansas, but environmentalists contend that Gov. Sam Brownback's administration is taking short cuts to ensure that the \$2.8 billion project is built. <a href="http://www.kansascity.com/2014/05/11/5016882/kansas-considers-revised-permit.html">http://www.kansascity.com/2014/05/11/5016882/kansas-considers-revised-permit.html</a>

**Southeast Missourian - Rep. Smith: New EPA standards would kill Missouri jobs** - 5/12/14 - Since my election to Congress last June, I have fought unnecessary and intrusive Washington regulations that are out of step with our rural way of life in Missouri's 8th Congressional District. Washington wants to regulate everything from how we generate the power

we need to run our homes and businesses, to how we are able to use our own land. http://www.semissourian.com/story/2081701.html

**Des Moines Register - Stowe: Some shouldn't vote on water rules** - 5/10/14 - State environmental leaders with financial ties to the livestock industry should abstain from voting on proposed rules that will govern the industry, the CEO of Des Moines Water Works said Friday. <a href="http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/green-fields/2014/05/09/bill-stowe-water-quality-proposed-regulations-abstain-voting/8892451/">http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/green-fields/2014/05/09/bill-stowe-water-quality-proposed-regulations-abstain-voting/8892451/</a>

NOTE: Paywall issues may keep you from seeing this article. Full text is included at the end of this email.

Des Moines Register - Nearly 30 lowa cities, utilities receive about \$34 million in water quality loans – 5/12/14 - Twenty-nine lowa cities will receive about \$34 million in low-cost water-quality loans through the State Revolving Fund, according to the the lowa Finance Authority and the lowa Department of Natural Resources.

<a href="http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/green-fields/2014/05/12/iowa-cities-utilities-win-water-quality-loans/9001189/">http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/green-fields/2014/05/12/iowa-cities-utilities-win-water-quality-loans/9001189/</a>

NOTE: Paywall issues may keep you from seeing this article. Full text is included at the end of this email.

Associated Press - Obama climate change panel to meet in Des Moines - Eight governors are expected to join with local officials in Des Moines at an event to discuss climate issues. The two-day Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience meeting will begin Tuesday at the World Food Prize Hall of Laureates. <a href="http://qctimes.com/news/state-and-regional/iowa/obama-climate-change-panel-to-meet-in-des-moines/article\_ad2a56be-bf26-5889-a0aa-da943bc3f3fb.html">http://qctimes.com/news/state-and-regional/iowa/obama-climate-change-panel-to-meet-in-des-moines/article\_ad2a56be-bf26-5889-a0aa-da943bc3f3fb.html</a>

**Lincoln Journal-Star (Neb.) - UP cleaning up oil along South Platte** - 5/12/14 - Crews from Union Pacific Railroad are still cleaning up thousands of gallons of oil over the weekend from an oil train derailment that leaked some crude into a ditch Friday along the South Platte River in northern Colorado. <a href="http://journalstar.com/ap/business/up-cleaning-up-oil-along-south-platte/article\_f31aeb87-d6dc-56e6-8f2f-60f3b050a588.html">http://journalstar.com/ap/business/up-cleaning-up-oil-along-south-platte/article\_f31aeb87-d6dc-56e6-8f2f-60f3b050a588.html</a>

Quad-City Times - \$1.8B fertilizer plant under construction in lowa - 5/12/14 - The construction of a \$1.8 billion fertilizer plant is having a significant impact on southeast lowa, but many people still debate how much the project will boost the economy over the long-term. <a href="http://qctimes.com/news/state-and-regional/iowa/b-fertilizer-plant-under-construction-in-iowa/article">http://qctimes.com/news/state-and-regional/iowa/b-fertilizer-plant-under-construction-in-iowa/article</a> 1c74581a-59ec-5e55-9c74-8ecbabab4ee5.html

**lowa Soybean eWeekly - EPA rule discussed, farm interests fear unknown** - 5/9/14 - About 20 representatives from lowa commodity groups, including the lowa Soybean Association, Agriculture's Clean Water Alliance (ACWA), government agencies and lowa State University (ISU) attended a roundtable discussion at ISU. The meeting, which lasted a little more than an hour, was one of several in the Midwest hosted by EPA Region 7 Director Karl Brooks. Environmental and hunting groups met with EPA officials after the ag session. <a href="http://www.iasoybeans.com/egldstnd/article.php?newsletter\_id=285&article\_id=2711">http://www.iasoybeans.com/egldstnd/article.php?newsletter\_id=285&article\_id=2711</a>

Kansas City Business Journal - Kansas coal plant fight heats up again - 5/9/14 - Kansas officials have stoked a years-long fight over a proposed coal-fired power plant by considering approval of a revised permit application. <a href="http://www.bizjournals.com/kansascity/blog/morning\_call/2014/05/kansas-coal-plant-fight-heats-up-again.html">http://www.bizjournals.com/kansascity/blog/morning\_call/2014/05/kansas-coal-plant-fight-heats-up-again.html</a>

**Environmental Health News - Farm sludge contaminates soil with drugs, other chemicals** - 5/12/14 - Sewage sludge used as fertilizer on farms can leave traces of prescription drugs and household chemicals deep in the soil, according to federal scientists. http://www.environmentalhealthnews.org/ehs/news/2014/may/biosolids-contaminants

Newswise - EPA Honors Interdisciplinary Projects on Stormwater Management - 5/8/14 - Two teams of Kansas State University engineers and landscape architects are being recognized nationally for developing ways to sustainably manage stormwater on campus. <a href="http://www.newswise.com/articles/epa-honors-interdisciplinary-projects-on-stormwater-management">http://www.newswise.com/articles/epa-honors-interdisciplinary-projects-on-stormwater-management</a>

**St. Joseph News-Press - Grain Belt earns FERC approval -** 5/9/14 - Grain Belt Express has obtained regulatory approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to sell transmission service to customers at negotiated rates. The project involves construction of a 750-mile overhead direct transmission line that seeks to connect wind energy from western Kansas with utilities and customers in Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and eastern states. <a href="http://www.newspressnow.com/news/local\_news/article\_eab84e11-223d-5353-a804-461921ec8aff.html">http://www.newspressnow.com/news/local\_news/article\_eab84e11-223d-5353-a804-461921ec8aff.html</a>

Midwest Energy News - In Iowa, solar effort to proceed despite loss of federal grant - 5/12/14 - Uncertainty over a looming court ruling and an ongoing state study has led lowa officials to return a \$1 million federal grant aimed at streamlining the state's permitting process. <a href="http://www.midwestenergynews.com/2014/05/12/in-iowa-solar-effort-to-proceed-despite-loss-of-federal-grant/">http://www.midwestenergynews.com/2014/05/12/in-iowa-solar-effort-to-proceed-despite-loss-of-federal-grant/</a>

Wichita Eagle - Brownback signs bill aimed to prevent federal regulation of lesser prairie chicken - 5/11/14 - Gov. Sam Brownback has signed a bill meant to prevent federal regulation of the lesser prairie chicken, his office announced Saturday. <a href="http://www.kansas.com/2014/05/10/3449289/brownback-signs-bill-aimed-to.html">http://www.kansas.com/2014/05/10/3449289/brownback-signs-bill-aimed-to.html</a>

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Electricity is 'name of the game' for aluminum smelter - 5/11/14 - Noranda can do little to influence the price of aluminum. But it can affect what it pays for electricity, and it's asking Missouri regulators to lower its bill. The fate of the New Madrid smelter, and the region's economy, hangs in the balance, Noranda says. <a href="http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/electricity-is-name-of-the-game-for-aluminum-smelter/article\_85711619-8901-5074-8dd2-3a91c21eaa8c.html">http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/electricity-is-name-of-the-game-for-aluminum-smelter/article\_85711619-8901-5074-8dd2-3a91c21eaa8c.html</a>

Associated Press - DNR to hold final 2 hearings on clean water rules - 5/10/14 - The lowa Department of Natural Resources continues to hold hearings next week on proposed new rules to regulate confinement livestock farms in lowa. <a href="http://qctimes.com/news/state-and-regional/iowa/dnr-to-hold-final-hearings-on-clean-water-rules/article\_4172ac15-336c-59fb-9e74-2dc840121dfe.html">http://qctimes.com/news/state-and-regional/iowa/dnr-to-hold-final-hearings-on-clean-water-rules/article\_4172ac15-336c-59fb-9e74-2dc840121dfe.html</a>

Canadian TV News - Pesticides likely 'main culprit' in bee deaths: Harvard study - 5/10/14 - Pesticides are directly responsible for a massive decline in the bee population in North America and Europe, a new study out of Harvard University says. <a href="http://www.ctvnews.ca/sci-tech/pesticides-likely-main-culprit-in-bee-deaths-harvard-study-1.1815859">http://www.ctvnews.ca/sci-tech/pesticides-likely-main-culprit-in-bee-deaths-harvard-study-1.1815859</a>

**Brownfield Ag News - Another take on the climate assessment report -** 5/12/14 - During his weekly conference call with reporters last week, Brownfield asked Nebraska U.S. Senator Mike Johanns for his reaction to the National Climate Assessment report, which contained some dire warnings about the challenges that farmers and ranchers could face in the coming years. <a href="http://brownfieldagnews.com/2014/05/12/climate-assessment-report/">http://brownfieldagnews.com/2014/05/12/climate-assessment-report/</a>

Greenwire - Long-stalled nominee criticized for role in Clean Water Act rule proposal - 5/12/14 - The Senate has yet to hold a floor vote on President Obama's nomination of Ken Kopocis to head up U.S. EPA's Office of Water, in large part over his role in efforts to increase the number of streams and wetlands that receive automatic protection. <a href="http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059999342/">http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059999342/</a>

**Reuters - U.S. takes first step toward fracking disclosure rules** - 5/9/14 - The Obama administration announced its first steps on Friday toward possibly tighter regulation of hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, seeking public input on whether companies should be required to disclose the contents of fluids used in the oil and natural gas drilling technique. http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/05/09/us-usa-fracking-epa-idUSBREA480SM20140509

Associated Press - Fed govt failed to inspect higher risk oil wells - 5/12/14 - The government has failed to inspect thousands of oil and gas wells it considers potentially high risks for water contamination and other environmental damage, congressional investigators say. <a href="http://www.kmov.com/news/national/258860941.html">http://www.kmov.com/news/national/258860941.html</a>

Wall Street Journal - EPA Weighs Demanding Disclosure of Fracking Chemicals - 5/9/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency took a first step Friday toward possibly requiring disclosure of the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. <a href="https://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304655304579551691342716528">https://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304655304579551691342716528</a>

Phys.org - Toxicologists outline key health and environmental concerns associated with hydraulic fracturing - 5/12/14 - In a newly published paper in Toxicological Sciences, members of the Society of Toxicology (SOT), alongside other experts, outline how toxicological sciences can be used to determine what risks may or may not be associated with hydraulic fracturing. <a href="http://phys.org/news/2014-05-toxicologists-outline-key-health-environmental.html">http://phys.org/news/2014-05-toxicologists-outline-key-health-environmental.html</a>

Midwest Energy News - In Iowa, solar effort to proceed despite loss of federal grant - 5/12/14 - Uncertainty over a looming court ruling and an ongoing state study has led Iowa officials to return a \$1 million federal grant aimed at streamlining the state's permitting process. <a href="http://www.midwestenergynews.com/2014/05/12/in-iowa-solar-effort-to-proceed-despite-loss-of-federal-grant/">http://www.midwestenergynews.com/2014/05/12/in-iowa-solar-effort-to-proceed-despite-loss-of-federal-grant/</a>

New York Times - Opinion: The Toxic Brew in Our Yards - 5/11/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency is proposing regulations that will limit farmworkers' exposure to

dangerous pesticides and is accepting comments on these changes through June 17. http://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/11/opinion/sunday/the-toxic-brew-in-our-yards.html

**Boston Globe - Nuclear startups reimagine atomic energy** - 5/10/14 - To most people, the outlook for nuclear power wouldn't seem bright. But into this bleak environment come two startups with roots at MIT hoping to revive an industry that has long struggled to make a comeback. <a href="http://www.bostonglobe.com/business/2014/05/10/nuclear-startups-reimagine-atomic-energy/mOyUYCwTYrTr7h5kSPRBmL/story.html">http://www.bostonglobe.com/business/2014/05/10/nuclear-startups-reimagine-atomic-energy/mOyUYCwTYrTr7h5kSPRBmL/story.html</a>

**Louisville Courier-Journal (Ky.) - Politicians appear in denial on climate change** - 5/9/14 - Precisely 97 percent of scientists involved in climate research have concluded that there has been "unequivocal" warming of the Earth's average global temperature in recent decades and that human-generated greenhouse gases are mostly responsible. http://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/politics/carroll/2014/05/09/politicians-appear-denial-climate-change/8917045/

**Greenwire - Reid objects to 2 House-passed bills targeting EPA, Interior rules -** 5/9/14 - Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid yesterday blocked the movement in the Senate of House-passed legislation to prevent regulations affecting coal mines and power plants. <a href="http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059999341/">http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059999341/</a>

ClimateWire - Major utility trims CO2 footprint 21% with energy efficiency, coal plant closures - 5/12/14 - American Electric Power Corp. is proving that large, coal-fired electric utilities can make significant reductions in their carbon footprints. <a href="http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/stories/1059999376/">http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/stories/1059999376/</a>

#### **Press Releases:**

Link to all R7 press releases: http://go.usa.gov/Qx5

EPA Provides \$100,000 to Support Green Infrastructure Development for City of Omaha, Neb. - 5/12/14 - Kris Lancaster, 7557

#### **Fact Sheets:**

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets">http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets</a>

None

## **Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:**

\* New additions noted with an asterisk

5/12/14 – Meet with Iowa Committee for Community Improvement (ICCI) Representatives, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Dave Cozad, 7587

5/12-13/14 - Waters of the U.S. Outreach Event - University of Lincoln, Lincoln, Neb. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

5/14/14 - State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience Meeting, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

5/15/14 – Small Business Majority Roundtable, Waterloo, Iowa. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

5/20-21/14 – Budget Planning Meeting, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

6/4/14 - Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) Visit, Regional Office. Contact: Deandre Singletary, 7373

6/5/14 – Incident Command System Training, Regional Office. Contact: Cecilia Tapia, 7733

**6/12/14 –** Joint R6/R7 COOP Meeting, Regional Office. Contact: Chris Taylor, 7373

6/24-25/14 – Four State Directors Meeting, Nebraska City, Neb. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551
7/21-22/14 – Budget Forum, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071
DRA:
5/20-21/14 – Budget Planning Meeting, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071
6/24-25/14 – Four State Directors Meeting, Nebraska City, Neb. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551
7/21-22/14 – Budget Forum, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071
RA/Immediate Office
None
Other Events
AWMD
None
CNSL
None
ECO/EJ
*5/15/14 – Trailnet, St. Louis, Mo. For EJ Grant Site Visit Contact: B. Corazzin, 77429
ENSV
None
PLMG
None
RA/OPA
9/29-30/14 - Healthy Schools Outreach, Missouri School Plant Managers' Association Conference, Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Contact: Kathleen Fenton, 7874 and Harry Diesel, 7382
SUPR

\*5/12/14 – Meetings with the Madison County Commission and Fredericktown City Council regarding the proposed repository for the Madison County Mine site. Contact: Dan Kellerman, 7603

#### **WWPD**

5/12/14 - Meet with ICCI Representatives, Des Moines, Iowa. Contacts: Dave Cozad, 7587, Karen Flournoy, 7782

5/12-16/14 - National Total Maximum Daily Load/Measures and 303(d) Listing Conference, Denver, Co. Contacts: Tabatha Adkins, 7128, Bruce Perkins, 7067, Debby White, 7886

## **Des Moines Register**

## Stowe: Some shouldn't vote on water rules

Donnelle Eller, deller@dmreg.com 1:48 a.m. CDT May 10, 2014

http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/green-fields/2014/05/09/bill-stowe-water-quality-proposed-regulations-abstain-voting/8892451/

State environmental leaders with financial ties to the livestock indudstry should abstain from voting on the rules that lowa Environmental Protection Commission members who benefit economically from the livestock feeding industry should abstain from voting on proposed rules that will govern the industry, the CEO of Des Moines Water Works said Friday during a public hearing in Des Moines.

"We have great concern about the appearance of impropriety, if an EPC member has interest in cattle or other livestock operations is involved in the review of these rules," Bill Stowe said at a public hearing on regulations on animal feeding operations.

"Clearly, we're in opposition to these rules as they're proposed as a utility that draws its water from the Des Moines and Raccoon rivers," he said. "We believe we have special standing to talk on behalf of our 500,000 customers in opposing these rules."

Stowe said after testifying that his group has not put a number on the commission members who should abstain from voting on the rules.

lowa Citizens for Community Improvement say Stowe's challenge would eliminate five of the nine-member board from voting: Nancy Couser, whose family raises cattle near Nevada; Brent Rastetter, whose Ames business Quality Ag Inc. builds confinement facilities; Gene Ver Steeg, an Inwood hog producer; Max Smith of Knoxville, who owns hogs; and Cindy Greiman of Garner, who raises cattle with her husband.

The group had about three dozen members opposing the proposed rules, saying fail to adequately protect lowa water quality.

The Des Moines utility said that livestock waste accounts for 34,598 tons of nitrogen in the Raccoon River and 55,177 tons per year in the Des Moines River.

The water agency spent nearly \$1 million last year removing harmful nitrates from drinking water provided its customers.

Justine Stevenson, government relations director for the Iowa Cattlemen's Association, said the state is more aggressively inspecting animal feeding operations, targeting those that have had previous spills.

She said the proposed rules provide "repercussions for individuals who do not follow the law. ... It allows inspections on a case-by-case basis, not a one-size fits all" approach,

Stevenson said.

In written comments, Stowe said: "Application of unlimited manure and commercial fertilizer and the ease in transport to our rivers through tile drainage has significantly degraded water quality."

Stowe said the focus of the rule-making should be not the regulation of livestock operations, but how to protect water quality from "the impact of untreated livestock waste."

"Manure from livestock should be managed and disposed of in a manner that does not pollute surface water," Stowe said, suggesting the state determine whether the farmland within the watershed feeding central lowa's drinking water can support the manure being generated there.

He said central lowa consumers have invested millions of dollars in nitrate-removal technologies and facilities "to cope with nitrate levels in our rivers that continue to trend upward," he said.

Stowe also called on increased setbacks on the application of solid and liquid manure from rivers and tile inlets; a ban on the application of manure on snow-covered or frozen ground; and that the rules that are adopted that demonstrate how the state will achieve nutrient reduction goals in the lowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy.

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Des Moines Register -

# Nearly 30 lowa cities, utilities receive about \$34 million in water quality loans

Donnelle Eller, deller@dmreg.com 2:05 p.m. CDT May 12, 2014

http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/green-fields/2014/05/12/iowa-cities-utilities-win-water-quality-loans/9001189/

Twenty-nine lowa cities will receive about \$34 million in low-cost water-quality loans through the State Revolving Fund, according to the the lowa Finance Authority and the lowa Department of Natural Resources.

The two agencies administer the fund, a source of low-cost construction loans for lowa cities and municipalities pursuing water quality improvements.

"The state revolving fund is an important resource for Iowa communities as they face a wide-array of water quality improvement needs," said DNR Director Chuck Gipp. "Quality water costs money, and the state revolving fund helps make the investment in Iowa's water more affordable for communities."

The state revolving fund has awarded lowa communities and municipalities about \$2.1 billion in construction loans and \$130 million through planning and design loans since 1989.

Here are the loan recipients, the amount and project type:

- n New Albin, \$50,000, planning and design.
- n Aplington, \$800,000, drinking water construction.
- n Rockwell City, \$182,500, planning and design.
- n Cumberland, \$396,000, drinking water construction.
- n Monona, \$30,000, planning and design.
- n Holy Cross, \$750,000, clean water construction.

- n Farley, \$35,000, planning and design.
- n Dike, \$220,000, planning and design.
- n New London, nearly \$4.9 million, clean water construction.
- n New London Municipal Utilities, \$370,000, drinking water construction.
- n Arthur, \$85,300, planning and design.
- n Battle Creek, \$263,000, clean water construction.
- n Miles, \$120,000, planning and design.
- n Lambs Grove, \$181,000, clean water construction.
- n Oxford, \$67,000, planning and design.
- n North Liberty, nearly \$1.4 million, planning and design.
- n Keota, \$50,000, planning and design.
- n Keokuk, \$5.3 million, clean water construction.
- n Columbus Junction, \$1.2 million, drinking water construction.
- n Pella, nearly \$1.2 million, planning and design.
- n Hastings, \$120,000, planning and design.
- n Elliott, \$250,000, clean water construction.
- n Des Moines Metro Wastewater Reclamation Authority, \$1.8 million, clean water construction.
- n Des Moines Metro Wastewater Reclamation Authority, \$5.4 million, clean water construction.
- n Des Moines Metro Wastewater Reclamation Authority, \$6 million, clean water construction.
- n Sanborn, \$225,000, planning and design.
- n Ashton, \$400,000, clean water construction.
- n Fonda, \$200,000, planning and design.
- n Grimes, \$950,000, planning and design.
- n Ames, \$375,000, planning and design.
- n Roland, \$150,000, planning and design.
- n Seymour, \$343,000, clean water construction.